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**Agricultural Summary:** For the week ending September 15, 2002, harvest for grain advanced at a slow pace due to rains received which improved producers outlook for pasture, alfalfa, and fall wheat growth, according to the USDA’s Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Subsoil moisture supplies still showed 91 percent short and very short across the state. Producer activities included preparations for fall harvest and livestock care.

This release is based on reports and data from county extension educators, FSA county directors, NOAA, and the High Plains Climate Center. Access weekly reports back to 1947 and current county specific comments at: <http://www.agr.state.ne.us/agstats/cropwthr.htm>

**Weather Summary:** Temperatures averaged mostly below normal and ranged from two degrees above to three degrees below normals across the state. Precipitation averaged near one inch statewide with amounts ranging to over 3.0 inches.

**Field Crops Report:** All corn condition rated 33 percent good and excellent, well below the average of 63. Irrigated corn condition rated 53 percent good and excellent, below the five-year average of 77. Dryland corn rated 5 percent good and excellent, far below the average of 46. The crop was 94 percent dented, near last year and average at 95. Forty-nine percent was mature, ahead of last year at 41 and average at 43. Harvest for grain or seed made some progress with 7 percent combined to date, ahead of last year at 4 and average at 5 percent.

Soybean condition rated 25 percent very poor, 27 poor, 27 fair, 18 good, and 3 excellent, well below last year and average. Eighty-five percent of the acreage had turned color, ahead of last year at 75 and average at 78. Leaves were dropping on 44

percent of the acreage, ahead of last year at 31 and average at 36. Harvest had started in a few counties in the eastern districts.

Sorghum condition improved and rated 35 percent very poor, 31 poor, 27 fair, and 7 good, well below last year and average. Fields were turning color on 80 percent of the acreage, behind last year at 89 and average at 87. Thirty-six percent was mature, ahead of last year at 26 and average at 30. Eight percent had been harvested, ahead of last year at 2 and average at 6.

Dry beans were dropping leaves on 49 percent of the acreage, over a week behind last year at 77 and average at 74. Harvest was 26 percent completed to date, behind last year at 45 and average at 39.

Proso millet harvest was 38 percent combined to date, behind 52 percent last year.

Wheat seeding progressed with 30 percent sown to date, behind last year at 32 and average at 36 percent. Ten percent had emerged, ahead of last year at 7 and average at 5.

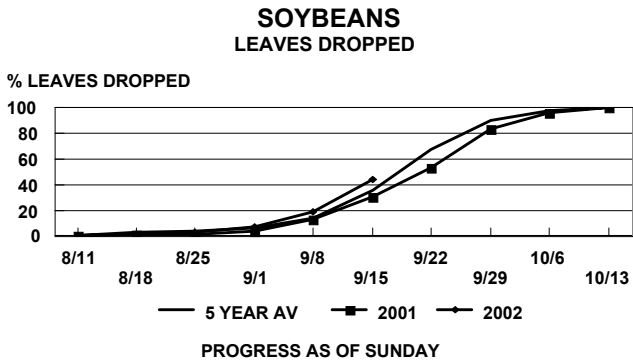
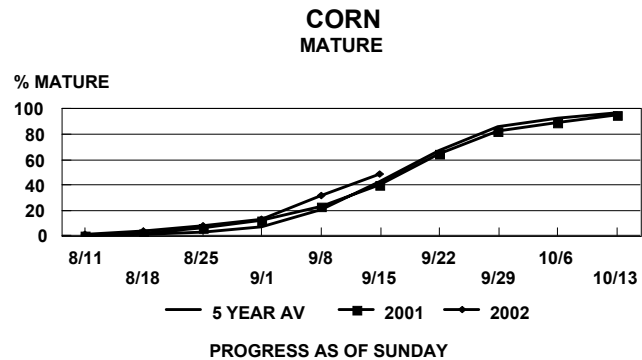
Alfalfa condition rated 33 percent very poor, 25 poor, 24 fair, 16 good, and 2 excellent, well below last year and average. Where growth permitted a fourth cutting, those activities were 43 percent complete, ahead of last year at 29 and average at 28.

**Livestock, Pasture, and Range Report:** Pasture and range conditions continued to rate 58 percent very poor, 28 poor, 10 fair, and 4 good, well below average. Some pastures were greening up due to the recent rains. Cattle on those pastures continued to receive supplemental feed. Calves are being worked and weaned. Use of stalk fields, as they become available, is highly anticipated.

Progress and Conditions: By District, Nebraska, as of September 15, 2002

Item	Agricultural Statistics Districts								State	Last Week	Last Year	Average
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
% Corn Mature	9	8	43	47	54	29	60	80	49	32	41	43
% Corn Harvested	0	0	3	6	6	0	7	13	7	5	4	5
% Soybeans Turning Color	<sup>1</sup>	88	86	95	84	78	86	80	85	61	75	78
% Soybeans Dropping Leaves	<sup>1</sup>	54	46	68	38	31	58	39	44	19	31	36
% Sorghum Turning Color	40	65	94	62	89	70	84	83	80	68	89	87
% Sorghum Mature	0	5	11	36	39	31	43	36	36	12	26	30
% Sorghum Harvested	0	0	0	0	3	0	12	9	8	2	2	6
% Wheat Seeded	47	48	5	30	15	20	15	7	30	11	32	36
% Alfalfa 4th Cutting	8	27	49	50	51	71	61	25	43	23	29	28
Days Suitable for Fieldwork	5.4	4.3	5.1	5.0	5.5	5.2	5.2	5.8	5.2	6.8	4.9	6.2
Topsoil Moisture												
- % Very short	32	12	11	39	14	50	45	54	29	48	10	23
- % Short	37	31	30	53	39	27	32	38	34	33	28	33
- % Adequate	31	57	59	8	45	23	23	8	37	19	57	42
- % Surplus	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	5	2
Subsoil Moisture												
- % Very Short	72	67	34	57	61	78	90	76	67	64	12	23
- % Short	21	23	40	41	24	17	10	19	24	27	42	32
- % Adequate	7	10	26	2	13	5	0	5	9	9	44	44
- % Surplus	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	1

<sup>1</sup> Data not available.



The map displays the percentage of the population aged 65 and over for each county in the United States. The values are as follows:

County	Percentage
Alaska	2.11
Alaska	2.46
Alaska	1.74
Alaska	3.31
Alaska	1.46
Alaska	1.20
Alaska	1.85
Alaska	2.00
Alaska	1.42
Alaska	.78
Alaska	1.77
Alaska	1.58
Alaska	.88
Alaska	.76
Alaska	.81
Alaska	.41
Alaska	.14
Alaska	.37
Alaska	.66
Alaska	.44
Alaska	.47
Alaska	.45
Alaska	.63
Alaska	1.09
Alaska	.54
Alaska	.27
Alaska	.60
Alaska	.45
Alaska	1.08
Alaska	.92
Alaska	.85
Alaska	1.71
Alaska	.68
Alaska	.41
Alaska	.88
Alaska	1.25
Alaska	1.71
Alaska	2.66
Alaska	1.21
Alaska	1.01
Alaska	.82
Alaska	.63
Alaska	.41
Alaska	.14
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Item	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	1.07	1.74	1.19	1.32	.92	.90	1.44	1.03
Total since April 1	7.88	11.89	16.21	11.07	17.58	8.04	11.08	15.91
Normal since April 1	12.42	15.76	18.03	17.15	19.47	14.83	17.14	20.34
Total as % of normal	63%	75%	89%	64%	90%	54%	64%	78%

## Temperature and Growing Degree Days: By Location, Nebraska, Week Ending Sunday, September 15, 2002

Station		Temperature				Growing Degree Days Since April 15		
		Extremes		Average	Departure	Last Week	Current	Normal
		High	Low					
NW	Alliance	87	42	59	-2	74	2417	2396
	Scottsbluff	87	49	62	1	86	2541	2392
	Sidney	83	45	60	-1	78	2572	2451
NC	Ainsworth	81	43	62	-1	87	2829	2625
	Arthur	82	45	61	-1	83	2589	2579
	O'Neill	83	42	62	-2	89	2841	2733
NE	Concord	87	42	64	0	100	2825	2785
	Elgin	85	44	62	-2	88	2860	2795
	West Point	88	43	65	-1	105	2899	2950
C	Grand Island	86	43	63	-1	99	2953	2833
	Lexington	84	42	64	-1	101	2995	2786
	Ord	84	43	64	-1	100	2906	2810
EC	Lincoln	89	47	66	-1	111	3263	3109
	Central City	88	41	64	-1	103	2985	2874
	Mead	88	44	64	-2	103	3044	3059
SW	Champion	84	39	63	0	102	2739	2636
	North Platte	82	40	64	0	101	2852	2660
	Curtis	82	42	66	2	117	2965	2700
SC	Arapahoe	83	39	60	-3	81	2609	2570
	Minden	85	42	63	-1	97	2944	2796
	Red Cloud	88	46	65	0	107	3223	2866
SE	Beatrice	89	45	64	-3	103	3136	3109
	Clay Center	85	44	63	-2	98	2938	2859
	Nemaha	95	49	69	1	129	3326	3125

Source: High Plains Climate Center.

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